244 pending. The financial position of the fund on 1st July 1916 stood as follows :—

				Rs.	a.	p.
Opening balance on 1st July 1915			...	32,63,662	15	10
Receipts—						
	Rs.	a.	p.			
Premium, etc. ...	3,74,665	3	0			
Approximate interest	1,17,838	10	1	... 4,92,503	13	1
			Total	... 37,55,566	12	11
Expenditure				... 1,42,092	1	6
Closing balance on 30th June 1916				... 36,13,474	11	5

As announced in this Assembly last year, the benefits of the State Life Insurance scheme have been thrown open to the public at large, and though the detailed rules could only be published towards the end of July last, a fairly large number of applications have been received, showing that the measure has supplied a real want.

2.—REVENUE DEPARTMENTS.

Land Revenue.

8. The number of Shekdars under the old scheme is steadily on the decrease, their number at present being only 36 per cent of the total number of Shekdars in the State. Twenty-five trained men were entertained during the year.

9. Correspondence has been going on between the Government of India and the Durbar regarding the retrocession of 18 *kavals* or grazing lands situated in the Bangalore and Mysore Districts and covering an area of 18,373 acres which had been in the possession of the British Military Department. The Government of India have conceded the claims of the Durbar and restored the *kavals* in question. A portion of these *kavals*, *viz.*, those situated in the Bangalore District together with some pasture lands in the Kolar and Tumkur Districts have now been leased to the authorities of the British Military Grass Farm for a period of 10 years, which is liable to extension, at an annual rental of Rs. 11,423.

10. Out of the cultürable area recently surveyed in the Kankanhalli Taluk, a substantial portion has been set apart to meet the requirements of the local raiyats and a portion reserved for large landed estates and for the use of retired officers and men of the Mysore Military Department. The question of extending the cultivation under

the Marikanave Reservoir continued to receive attention. Wide publicity is being given to the conditions of cultivation in the area.

Cattle Shows and Exhibitions.

11. Cattle Shows were held at 21 places throughout the State and Agricultural and Industrial Exhibitions at Dodballapur, Channapatna, Hassan and Channarayapatna. At Chiknayakanhalli, an agricultural demonstration as well as a vegetable show and a weaving competition were held. At Tiptur, a cocoanut show was held where varieties of cocoanuts were exhibited and the commercial uses to which they could be put were demonstrated.

Veterinary Department.

12. The year was one of some anxiety to the Veterinary Department owing to the prevalence of rinderpest throughout the year in parts of Shimoga, Chitaldrug and Kadur Districts, and the appearance of anthrax and black-quarter in a sporadic form in parts of Bangalore, Mysore, Kolar and Hassan Districts. The number of fresh admissions into veterinary hospitals and dispensaries was 18,232 and the number of cases treated was 63,311, the corresponding numbers for the previous year being 16,937 and 61,843 respectively. The opening of more hospitals and dispensaries and the provision of better accommodation and equipment for the existing institutions are under the consideration of Government. The work of the special staff appointed for inoculation work in the bordering taluks of the Madras Presidency is favourably reported upon.

Excise.

13. The more important measures introduced during the year were the enhancement of the duty on ganja from Rs. 10 to Rs. 12-8-0 per seer, the increase in the rate of tree-tax on date and cocoanut trees from Rs. 1-8-0 and Rs. 2 to Rs. 2 and Rs. 3 respectively, the enhancement of the duty on beer from 2 annas 1½ pies to 4 annas per gallon, the increase of the rate of license fees on foreign liquors by 25 per cent, the enhancement in the cost price of opium, and lastly, the reduction of the strength of arrack to 30° U.P. Ten arrack, 9 date toddy, 22 bagani toddy and 2 opium shops were closed during the year and 5 new shops were opened for the sale of special liquors. There were in all 740 arrack, 2,518 date toddy, 613 bagani toddy, 258 ganja, 110 opium, and 23 special liquors, shops. The total number of offences reported during the year was 3,261 as against 2,990 in the previous year. The expenditure of the department under all heads amounted to Rs. 3,44,000 being 5·8 per cent of the

revenue. Claims for excise revenue in respect of 22 alienated villages were settled.

Forests.

14. Eleven blocks with an area of 114·81 square miles were notified as State Forest during the year and 9 blocks with an area of 73·34 square miles were notified under Section 4 of the Forest Regulation. An area of 228·7 square miles was surveyed. New boundary lines were made to the length of 139 miles, and 2,166 miles of existing boundaries were repaired. Working plans were prepared in respect of 7 State Forests with an aggregate area of 110 square miles. The area attempted to be fire protected was 2,449·59 square miles, the percentage of success being 96·4. Twenty-eight families of Mahratta Kunbis were settled in the Sagar ghats making up a total of 283 families. A Co-operative Society has been started for the benefit of these people and their educational requirements are receiving attention.

15. Forty-four thousand three hundred and ninety-seven cubic feet of timber were fed into the Kumsi Saw Mills and converted into scantlings, reapers, etc. The expenditure incurred including the value of rough timber, depreciation charges and interest on capital, amounted to Rs. 37,918, and the income from the mill to Rs. 41,013 giving a surplus of Rs. 3,095.

Stamps.

16. The revenue derived from the sale of stamps was Rs. 11,72,336 against Rs. 10,82,074 in the previous year showing a net increase of Rs. 90,262. The expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 44,180. The rates of stamp duty on Bills of Exchange have been recently enhanced so as to bring them into line with those in British India. The question of introducing special stamp papers for *hundis* which has been suggested in successive years at this Assembly is under the consideration of Government.

Registration.

17. The number of documents registered during the year 1915-16 was 107,407 against 105,723 in 1914-15 showing an increase of 1,684. The income of the department was Rs. 2,11,516 and the expenditure Rs. 93,228. Four new Sub-Registration offices were opened from 1st January 1916 at Srinivasapur, Turuvekere, Honnali and Sagar respectively.

Joint Stock Companies.

18. Four new companies limited by shares were registered and six companies ceased to work. The total number of companies working at the close of the year was 82 or two less than the number at the end of the previous year.

12

Revenue Survey and Inam.

19. Original survey work was done in 2 inam villages comprising an area of 2,191 acres, and classification was carried out in 3 inam villages as also in respect of nearly 8,450 acres in the Devanhalli Taluk and the Closepet Sub-Taluk. Re-survey operations were completed in 242 villages and re-classification of water supply to wet and garden lands in 434 villages.

20. In the Inam Department, 4 land inams and one ready money inam were confirmed and 7 whole inam villages, 16 minor land inams and one cash inam were revised.

3.—PROTECTION.

Legislation.

21. The following eight Regulations were passed into law after receiving the assent of His Highness the Maharaja :—

(1) The Indian Soldiers' Litigation Regulation (No. VI of 1915),

(2) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Mines Regulation, 1906 (No. VII of 1915),

(3) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Municipal Regulation, 1906 (No. VIII of 1915),

(4) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Civil Courts Regulation, 1883 (No. IX of 1915),

(5) The Mysore Lunacy Regulation (No. I of 1916),

(6) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Land Revenue Code, 1888 (No. II of 1916),

(7) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Municipal Regulation, 1906 (No. III of 1916), and

(8) A Regulation further to amend the Mysore Stamp Regulation, 1900 (No. IV of 1916).

Rules and notifications under several enactments in operation were also issued during the year.

Judicial.

22. There was an increase of 16·53 per cent in the amount of civil litigation in the State and this was contributed by all the three divisions. The number of offences dealt with by the courts rose from 17,859 in 1914-15 to 20,159, the percentage of increase being 12·87. Practically the whole of this increase occurred in the Bangalore Division.